Message Text

SECRET

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O P 231212Z ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2106
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

SECRETTEL AVIV 3945

EXDIS (DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS)

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR IS LE PEPR EG

SUBJ: WEIZMAN-GAMASY CONNECTION

REFS: (A) TEL AVIV 3855, (B) CAIRO 9077

- 1. AT OUTSET OF MEETING WITH WEIZMAN THIS MORNING (MARCH 23) HE INFORMED ME HE HAD RECEIVED AN ANSWER TO HIS MESSAGE TO GAMASY (REF A). HE THEN PROCEEDED TO HAND MESSAGE TO ME WITH THE INVITATION TO READ IT.
- 2. GAMASY HAD RESPONDED IN WARM AND COLLEGIAL LANGUAGE TO WHAT APPARENTLY HAD BEEN AN EQUALLY FRIENDLY MESSAGE FROM WEIZMAN. (WEIZMAN SAID HE HAD ALREADY PHONED THE IDF UNIT IN CAIRO TO CONVEY HIS THANKS TO GAMASY.) IN THE MESSAGE GAMASY EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR WEIZMAN'S EXPLANATION OF THE CURRENT SITUATION AND OF ISRAELI INTENTIONS (WHICH APPARENTLY HAD BEEN SPELLED OUT IN DETAIL). HE NOTED THE GOE HAD BEEN CLOSELY FOLLOWING SECRET

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WEIZMAN'S VARIOUS PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS OF RECENT DAYS.
GAMASY SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND
BY OTHER GOI ACTIONS. HE HOPED THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN
LEBANON WOULD BE QUICKLY RESOLVED SO THAT THE NEGOTIATION
PROCESS WOULD ONCE AGAIN OCCUPY CENTER STAGE. IN THE
MEANTIME, GAMASY SAID HE IS FULLY PREPARED TO KEEP THE

DIALOGUE GOING THROUGH HIS PRIVATE CHANNEL TO WEIZMAN.

- 3. IN HIS INITIAL MESSAGE, WEIZMAN SAID HE HAD SUGGESTED THAT HE AND GAMASY MEET PRIVATELY TO CONTINUE THEIR DISCUSSIONS. GAMASY'S REPLY STATED THAT HE THINKS THIS A GOOD IDEA WITH WHICH HE IS IN TOTAL AGREEMENT. HE SAID HE AWAITS WEIZMAN'S SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW TO SET IT UP.
- 4. COMMENT: WEIZMAN IS ELATED OVER GAMASY'S RESPONSE. DURING OUR DISCUSSION I GOT THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT THIS RENEWED CONTACT WITH GAMASY PROBABLY PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HIS POLITICAL DECISION TO CHALLENGE BEGIN BY CALLING FOR A BROADENED COALITION (SEE SEPTEL). WEIZMAN CLEARLY REMAINS CONVINCED THAT HE IS THE ONE PERSON IN THE BEGIN GOVERNMENT WHO CAN SUCCESSFULLY NEGOTIATE WITH THE EGYPTIANS. HE SAID HE WILL SEEK BEGIN'S AUTHORITY IMMEDIATELY UPON HIS RETURN FROM WASHINGTON TOMORROW TO SET UP THE MEETING (WHICH HE SUGGESTED PROBABLY WILL HAVE TO BE HELD IN SECRET.) VIETS

SECRET

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: CAT-B, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MEETINGS Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 23 mar 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TELAV03945
Document Source: DOC **Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: n/a Enclosure: EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS Executive Order: GS Errors: n/a **Expiration:** Film Number: P840157-1943, N780003-0658 Format: TEL From: TEL AVIV Handling Restrictions: n/a Image Path: ISecure: 1 Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803123/aaaaffuf.tel Line Count: 86 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes: Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: bc5f5ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Office: ACTION NODS Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, NODIS Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, NODIS
Reference: 78 TEL AVIV 3855, 78 CAIRO 9077 Retention: 0 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 07 jun 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a **SAS ID:** 3163552 Secure: OPEN Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 970812 Subject: WEIZMAN-GAMASY CONNECTION TAGS: PDIP, EG, IS, LE, PBOR, PDIP, PEPR, (GAMASY, MOHAMED ABDEL GHANI), To: CAIRO SS MULTIPLE (WEIZMAN, EZER) Type: TE vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bc5f5ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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20 Mar 2014